

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Inventor: Francesco Piccone

Title: CONCRETE FORMWORK

Serial No.: 10/623,600

Filing Date: 22 July 2003

Examiner: M. Safavi

Art Unit: 3637

To: The Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop Amendment
PO Box 1450
Arlington, Virginia 22313-1450

4 March 2008

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE
TO REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION**

In response to the Office Action dated 28 September 2007, requiring the applicant to restrict the application to one of the three claims groups defined by the Examiner, please amend this application as follows.

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) Stay-in-place formwork for casting vertical concrete structures comprising:

a plurality of elongate vertically-extending wall panels interconnected in edge-to-edge relationship *via* suitably configured elongate wall interconnection means along their longitudinal edges to define an outer perimeter wall of formwork assembly; and,

a plurality of inner support panels disposed within the wall and associated with the wall panels at selected suitable intervals *via* the co-operative interconnection of connector means provided along the edges of the support panels and complementary support panel connector means provided on the inward-facing surface of the wall panels.
2. (Original) The stay-in-place formwork of claim 1, wherein the selected interval between adjacent support interconnection means of the wall panels is a regular interval.
3. (Original) The stay-in-place formwork of claim 2, wherein the selected regular interval between adjacent support interconnection means of the wall panels is conserved as a unit measure of width, and wherein the wall panels and support panels are dimensioned such as to have an overall effective width that is a whole number multiple of the unit measure of width.
4. (Original) The stay-in-place formwork of claim 1, wherein the support panel is elongate in the vertical orientation, and wherein each elongate support panel further comprises at least one suitably dimensioned perforation to permit the cross-flow of concrete and the cross-placement of conventional steel reinforcing rods.

5. (Original) The stay-in-place formwork of claim 1, wherein the interconnection means between the wall panels and support panels are suitably configured for the releasable interconnection thereof.
6. (Original) The stay-in-place formwork of claim 1, further comprising at least one tensioning panel associated with at least one wall panel and at least one support panel.
7. (Amended) A concrete structure comprising the formwork assembly of ~~any one of the preceding claim 1~~ and concrete poured into the assembly.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Original) A kit for a formwork assembly for casting vertical concrete structures comprising:

a plurality of elongate vertically-extending wall panels interconnected in edge-to-edge relationship *via* suitably configured elongate wall interconnection means along their longitudinal edges to define an outer perimeter wall of formwork assembly; and,

a plurality of inner support panels disposed within the wall and associated with the wall panels at selected suitable intervals *via* the co-operative interconnection of connector means provided along the edges of the support panels and complementary support panel connector means provided on the inward-facing surface of the wall panels.

12. (New) The stay-in-place formwork of claim 1, wherein the wall panels have inner and outer surfaces and wall interconnection means for engaging similar wall panels in edge-to-edge relationship disposed along its longitudinal edges, the wall interconnection means along the first longitudinal edge and the wall interconnection means along the second longitudinal edge being complementary, such that two adjacent wall panels presented with their inner surfaces in the same orientation may be interconnected, the wall panel further having support interconnection means disposed on its inside surface for interconnection with a formwork support panel having complementary interconnection means provided along its edges.
13. (New) The stay-in-place formwork of claim 1, wherein the support interconnection means extend along substantially the entire elongate length of the wall panel, and wherein each support interconnection means is spaced apart from adjacent support interconnection means across the width of the wall panel at a selected suitable regular interval.
14. (New) The stay-in-place formwork of claim 1, wherein the support panel has an overall effective width that is a whole number multiple of the unit measure of width.

ELECTION

The applicant hereby restricts this application to Claim Group I (as defined by the Examiner in the Office Action dated 9 October 2007), namely claims 1 to 7 and 11 inclusive, without prejudice to the applicant's right to file divisional applications related to Claim Groups II and III at a later date.

Further, in response to the requirement to elect a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed, the applicant hereby elects the formwork of Figure 2. Claims 1 to 7 and 11 and new claims 12, 13 and 14 encompass the elected invention.

CLAIMS AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 8, 9, and 10 inclusive and add new claims 12, 13 and 14.

Please amend claim 7 to read - A concrete structure comprising the formwork assembly of claim 1 and concrete poured into the assembly. --

REMARKS

The present amendment brings Applicant into compliance with the restriction and election requirements imposed by the Official Action. The amendment to claim 7 limits the dependency of the claim to claim 1.

Respectfully submitted

By: 

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Registration No.: 26,125

IMW:

Vancouver, British Columbia

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Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt

EFS ID:	2949601
Application Number:	10623600
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Confirmation Number:	5834
Title of Invention:	Concrete formwork
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	Francesco Piccone
Customer Number:	8253
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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes) /Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)
1	Miscellaneous Incoming Letter	Transmittal_080304.pdf	638670 <small>554384c117db466094125b1b0b4556a3 b0f43c93</small>	no	2

Warnings:

Information:

2	Response to Election / Restriction Filed	Resp_re_Election_080304.pdf	1096111 <small>085cea3178081e85ecb34b091def1cde 56964917</small>	no	5
Warnings:					
Information:					
Total Files Size (in bytes):			1734781		
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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

6

Application Number

10/623,600

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4 March 2008

First Named Inventor

Francesco Piccone

Art Unit

3637

Examiner Name

Michael Safavi

Attorney Docket Number

PF002/2355/US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)☐

Fee Transmittal Form

☐

Fee Attached

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Amendment/Reply

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After Final

☐

Affidavits/declaration(s)

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Extension of Time Request

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Express Abandonment Request

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Information Disclosure Statement

☐

Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

☐Reply to Missing Parts/
Incomplete Application☐Reply to Missing Parts
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53☐

Drawing(s)

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Licensing-related Papers

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Petition

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Petition to Convert to a

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Provisional Application

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Terminal Disclaimer

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Remarks

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After Allowance Communication to TC

☐Appeal Communication to Board
of Appeals and Interferences☐Appeal Communication to TC
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)☐

Proprietary Information

☐

Status Letter

☐Other Enclosure(s) (please identify
below):**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm Name

Barigar Intellectual Property Law

Signature

/Robert H. Barrigar/

Printed name

Robert H. Barrigar

Date

4 March 2008

Reg. No.

26,125

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Signature

Typed or printed name

Date

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